



PET PROTOCOL: GENERAL

July 15, 1998, (8/21/98)
(major messages in bold)



Visit Five: Basic Pet Education

Assessment

- ☐ Ask if any pets are in the house and what kinds. (If any allergen-producing pets present, complete both basic and intensive pet protocols. Indicate in tracking system that pet is present [a59 or 60] If no pets, then complete only basic education).

Basic Education

- ☐ **All warm-blooded pets, including dogs, cats and birds, produce substances that can trigger asthma (allergens).**
- ☐ These allergens include dander (flakes from the hair or skin, as well as substances in the saliva, feces and urine).
- ☐ **If a child is sensitive to these allergens, having the animal in the house can make asthma worse.**
- ☐ Skin tests can tell if someone is sensitive to pets.
- ☐ **If someone is sensitive, the best approach is to remove the pet from the home.**
- ☐ If this is not acceptable (and usually it is not), suggest keeping the pet out of the child's bedroom and play area at all times. Also, keep the pet outdoors or in the basement/utility room at night. Keep the door to the bedroom closed.

Supplies

None

Referrals

none

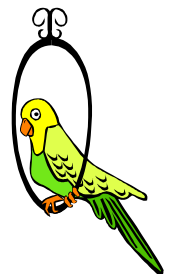
PET PROTOCOL: INTENSIVE

Assessment

- ☐ Ask how much time each dander-producing pet spends in each room
- ☐ Ask if any things are done to reduce exposure to pet dander

Education

- ☐ All warm-blooded pets, including dogs, cats and birds, produce substances that can trigger asthma (allergens).
- ☐ These allergens include dander (flakes from the hair or skin, as well as substances in the saliva, feces and urine).



- ☐ If a child is sensitive to these allergens, having the animal in the house can make asthma worse.
- ☐ Skin tests can tell if someone is sensitive to pets.
- ☐ If someone is sensitive, the best approach is to remove the pet from the home.
- ☐ If this is not acceptable (and usually it is not), suggest keeping the pet out of the child's bedroom and play area at all times. Also, keep the pet outdoors or in the basement/utility room at night. Keep the door to the bedroom closed.
- ☐ Suggest that no new warm-blooded pets be introduced. Fish are fine. Reptiles (like snakes, iguanas and other lizards) are also OK for kids 5 years and older. Everyone should wash hands with soap and water after handling the reptile because they carry a bacteria called Salmonella. Because younger kids are not as good at washing up, reptiles aren't a good choice for them.
- ☐ A HEPA air filter may be helpful, especially in the child's bedroom.
- ☐ Place a dense filter over forced air heating/cooling outlets
- ☐ It is not essential to wash pets, although this may help a little in some cases.

Supplies

- ☐ heating vent filters
- ☐ HEPA air filters (if available)
- ☐ PAWS pamphlet on how to place your pet

Referrals

- ☐ PAWS (425-787-2500 extension 806)

Visit Six: Follow-up for Homes with Pets

Assessment

- ☐ Ask if any pets are still in the house and what kinds. (If any allergen-producing pets present, repeat both basic and intensive pet protocols. Indicate in tracking system that pet is present [a59 or 60]). If pets are still in home, review protocol steps from visit 5.

Visit Eight: Follow-up for Homes with Pets

Assessment

- ☐ Ask if any pets are still in the house and what kinds. (If any allergen-producing pets present, repeat both basic and intensive pet protocols. Indicate in tracking system that pet is present [a59 or 60]). If pets are still in home, review protocol steps from visit 5.